



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

USC/FAR meeting

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USC/FAR Doc. No. 31
July 10, 1973

MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. Harold P. Ford, Chief
Special Research Staff C/SRS/DDI

FROM : INR/XR - E. Raymond Platig *ER* USC/FAR Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: USC/FAR Meeting on July 25 for Consideration of Third Plan

The USC/FAR Chairman, Ray S. Cline, has asked me to schedule a meeting of the USC/FAR for consideration of the Third Plan. The following arrangements have been made:

TIME: 2:30, Wednesday, July 25, 1973.

PLACE: Main State, Room 1105 (please use "C" Street entrance).

Attached are three documents: (1) The "Table of Contents" for the Third Plan; (2) PART III of the Plan entitled "Multiple Profiles: Features of the Third Plan"; (3) USC/FAR Doc. 5 (Revision 2), February 23, 1973, which will appear as an Appendix to the Third Plan.

PART III of the Plan is the key enclosure. It is a multi-faceted analysis of the planning data submitted by the six Member Agencies. It is meant to be factual and, except as strictly required by the analysis, non-interpretive. It would be appreciated if, as soon as possible, you were to inform me of any factual and typographical errors or of any unfelicitous phrasing. We hope, of course, to avoid any major retyping.

PART III provides the basis for identifying and assessing the planned levels and allocations of funds for FY-74+75. If this assessment leads us to conclude there are "short-falls" or "imbalances" in the Plan we can attempt corrective action, as we did in the Second Plan, by adopting USC/FAR Research Objectives. As last year, it would seem wise to focus USC/FAR Research Objectives only on important funding problems, on significant gaps and on major imbalances among regions, general functional categories, or purposes. Except in glaring cases, imbalances within regions or within general functional fields can probably best be detected and dealt with in the appropriate USC/FAR Consultative Groups.

The Secretariat is now making an assessment of the planning information in PART III and will provide a draft of possible Research Objectives. This draft will be forwarded to you prior to the meeting. You are urged to make your own assessment and to send me any draft Research Objectives you would like to have considered at the meeting.

Discussion of these drafts will be the major item of business at the July 25 meeting. The central purpose of the meeting is to agree on those Research Objectives, if any, that should be included in PART II of the Third Plan.

If we can accomplish that task at the meeting, work on the Third Plan will be essentially complete. The final version can then be prepared quickly and sent to Member Agencies for their concurrence before it is forwarded to the Chairman of the USC and, through him, to the President. Our target date for transmission to the President is Friday, August 31.

Please note that two parts included in the "Limited Official Use" version of the Second Plan are not being prepared in the same form for the Third Plan. These were PART IV: "Details of Plan by Region" and PART V: "Details of Plan by Function." Dropping of these lengthy parts is made possible by the maturation of our computerized handling of planning data so that PART III (and its Appended Tables) now contain, in much briefer compass, richer detail than was present in the two discontinued parts. (We are assured that in the final printing the Appended Tables to PART III will be more legible and more neatly placed on the pages than is true in the copy attached.)

The only thing in the Second Plan missing from the Third one is the greater specification of possible research topics gleaned from the narrative statements submitted by Member Agencies. It was this greater specification that led to designating the full Second Plan "LOU." One advantage of the new arrangement is that the whole Plan can be issued in a single, unclassified version. And, as suggested in Section J of PART III, the narrative statements of the agencies (some of which are classified) will be made available to the USC/FAR Consultative Groups as supplementary documents to enrich the more formal analysis contained in PART III. These two sources of information should provide the Groups a solid basis for effecting pre-contract or pre-grant project coordination as Member Agencies began to implement their plans.

To Recapitulate:

1. Please forward to me as soon as possible your comments on PART III.
2. Forward to me before the meeting any draft USC/FAR Research Objectives you would like considered at the meeting.

3. Be on the look-out prior to the meeting for the Secretariat's draft of Research Objectives.
4. Please plan to attend or be represented at the meeting starting at 2:30 on July 25 in Main State, Room 1105.

If you have any questions about these preparations for the meeting, please call me at 632-1342 or Warren Reynolds at 632-20804.